

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2026

# St Giles-on-the-Heath Primary School

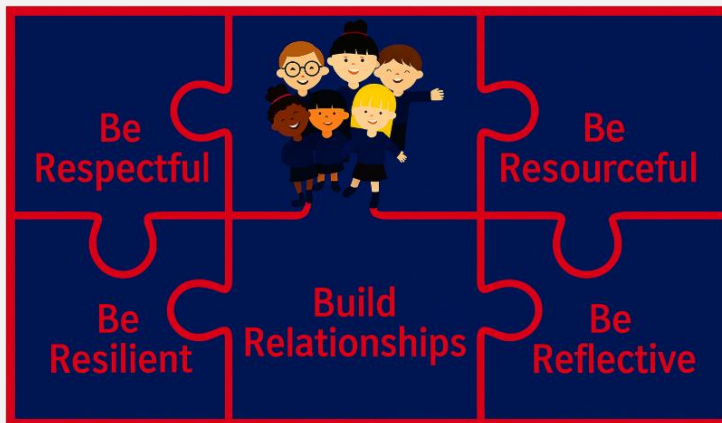
*Aim High; Be Resilient; Take Care of Each Other*

Newsletter No. 24 Summer Term

Dear Families

I hope you had an enjoyable Bank Holiday weekend. The children have returned refreshed and ready for another week of learning. Our Year 6 children, particularly are working hard in preparation for next week, as it is SATs week. Year 6 children should continue to Aim High and do their best to revise and prepare for these doing any additional homework set. Whatever their final results, the most important thing will be that they have done their very best. It's also important to continue to be active and take part in clubs and activities and eat and sleep well and remember that the children's wellbeing is important. So, the aim should be a balance between working hard for tests, whilst knowing that this is just one snapshot of their lives. The power point we shared with parents some weeks ago has been recirculated to you.

Last week, we held our first Celebration Assembly where children were awarded certificates based on the motto of Aim High; Be Resilient; Take Care of Each Other or the Carey Qualities.



This helps to support the understanding and embedding of these values. The idea is to reward the process of working towards an achievement rather than the achievement itself. Having a values driven culture encourages children to 'Aim High' even if they don't quite achieve the desired outcome- it is the effort and ambition which is acknowledged and rewarded. It also rewards relational qualities e.g. Taking Care of Each Other, Building Relationships and Being Respectful. With time, children understand that we value how hard they try rather than the outcome as well as the kindness and care they show to others. This helps to support positive behaviours both in and out of the classroom. Well done to all those who received a certificate last week.

THE CAREY FEDERATION



## Upcoming Events

### May 5

Sunset Club – Board Games

### May 6 & 7

Sunset Club – Creative Club

### May 11

SATS Week

### May 14

Class 1 Viking Day

### May 15

FPTA Bingo

### May 18

Holsworthy College talk

### May 25

Half Term

### June 1

Back to school

### June 1

Swimming Lessons Yr3, Yr4, Yr5

### June 2

Yr 6 Leavers photos

### June 8

Swimming Lessons Yr3, Yr4, Yr5

### June 15

Swimming Lessons Yr3, Yr4, Yr5

### June 16

Sports Day Timings to be confirmed

### June 17

Class 3 residential to Bideford

### June 22

Swimming Lessons Yr3, Yr4, Yr5

### June 29

Swimming Lessons Yr3, Yr4, Yr5

### June 30

Reserve Sports Day

### July 6

Swimming Lessons Yr3, Yr4, Yr5

### July 13

Swimming Lessons Yr3, Yr4, Yr5

### July 22

Last day of Summer term

For building <b>Relationships</b>	For being <b>Resilient</b>	For being <b>Resourceful</b>	For being <b>Reflective</b>	For being <b>Respectful</b>
Sam – Class 1  Mia – Class 2  Alice – Class 3	Finn G – Class 1  Brodi - Reception		Alf N – Class 1  Einar – Class 3  Elouise – Class 3  Liam – Class 2  Freddie E – Class 2	Maisie – Class 1

Mrs Ruh Alford  
Executive Headteacher

Holsworthy College –

On Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May the Vice Principle of Holsworthy College will be coming into school to talk with the children going to Holsworthy College in September. The meeting will take place at 2:45pm and he will be available at the end of the day should parents wish to speak with him.

## Useful Links

### School Contact

#### Details

**Tel:** 01566 772191

**Email:** [admin@st-giles-heath-primary.devon.sch.uk](mailto:admin@st-giles-heath-primary.devon.sch.uk)

**Website:** [St Giles On The Heath Primary School – Halwill and Ashwater Primary Schools](http://StGilesOnTheHeathPrimarySchool-HalwillandAshwaterPrimarySchools)

**Safeguarding:** If you have any concerns about a child, please speak to one of the safeguarding team or email [safeguarding@halwill.devon.sch.uk](mailto:safeguarding@halwill.devon.sch.uk)

#### Safeguarding Lead

Mrs Ruh Alford

#### Deputy Safeguarding Leads

Mrs Nicola Taylor

Mrs Jeanette Neale

Miss Jayne Miners

Mrs Rosie Cawsey

## Term Dates

**These are on our website:**

[Term Dates – Halwill and Ashwater Primary Schools](#)

Refreshments  
available.  
BYOB.

St Giles on the  
Heath Primary  
School FPTA  
presents...

£10 for 8  
games.  
£2 cash flyer.  
CASH ONLY.

Amazing  
prizes  
from local  
businesses

Tables of  
6-8.

# Family Fun



## Friday 15th May

Lifton Community Centre.

Opens 7pm, eyes down 7.30pm.

To book call Kayleigh on 07854275955

or email [stgiles.fpta@outlook.com](mailto:stgiles.fpta@outlook.com).



*Aim High; Be Resilient; Take Care of Each Other*

**Unauthorised Holiday/Leave Request**

As you will be aware, Government Guidance advises that schools should not authorise requests for term time absence unless the school has received suitable evidence of exceptional circumstances. The Government does not consider a family holiday to be an exceptional circumstance.

In the absence of suitable evidence of exceptional circumstances, on this occasion the school cannot authorise your request for a Term Time Absence. We believe that if students are to benefit from education, good attendance is crucial. It is the policy of our school to celebrate achievement, and full attendance is a critical factor to a productive and successful school career.

I must take this opportunity to remind you, that should you still choose to take your child out of school unauthorised, then the school must refer the absence to the Local Authority for the consideration of initiating Parental Responsibility Measures. If you have Parental Responsibility, this could mean receiving any of the following.

- A Penalty Notice. Should a Penalty Notice be issued, one notice will be issued to each parent/carer for each child involved. Currently, each Penalty Notice is for £160, which is reduced to £80 if paid within the first 21 days. If a Penalty Notice goes unpaid after 28 days, then court proceedings will be initiated. If a previous Penalty Notice has been issued within the past 2 years, then the Local Authority will proceed straight to Court.
- A Magistrates Summons that could lead to a criminal record, a fine of up to £2,500 and/or a term of imprisonment for up to 3 months.

We understand the disappointment that a refusal may cause, but as you can appreciate, this policy represents the school's responsibility and commitment towards ensuring your child's full and efficient education.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Ruh Alford

Executive Headteacher



## **FREE SCHOOL MEALS – Are you entitled to apply?**

Even though your child is entitled to universal infant free school meals in reception, year 1 and year 2, if you are eligible for free school meals it is important that you register as soon as possible as this attracts income for the school.

### **CRITERIA FOR ELIGIBILITY**

Your child may be able to get free school meals if you get any of the following:

- Income Support
- income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- the guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

Children who get paid these benefits directly, instead of through a parent or guardian, can also get free school meals.

Your child may also get free school meals if you get any of these benefits and your child is both:

To apply please use the following link

[https://oneonline.devon.gov.uk/CCSCitizenPortal\\_LIVE/Account/Login?ReturnUrl=%2fCCSCitizenPortal\\_live](https://oneonline.devon.gov.uk/CCSCitizenPortal_LIVE/Account/Login?ReturnUrl=%2fCCSCitizenPortal_live)

If you require any assistance, then please do not hesitate to contact the school offices.